

**Amendment No. 1 to SB1777**

**Crowe  
Signature of Sponsor**

**FILED**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Comm. Amdt. \_\_\_\_\_

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 1777\***

**House Bill No. 1457**

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 33, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

33-6-108.

(a) The commissioner is authorized to create and administer a pool of funds that will be used to support the delivery of community-based behavioral health services to those persons who are uninsured or medically indigent. This pool of funds shall assist in covering a portion of the costs incurred for providing such services within a program designed to improve access to a basic level of behavioral health services for the target population. The program established with the pool of funds appropriated for this purpose shall be developed by the commissioner in consideration of the options put forward in the report completed and presented to the members of the general assembly pursuant to Chapter 812 of the Public Acts of 2006. The department of mental health and developmental disabilities shall administer and monitor the program in a manner that best utilizes the available Mental Health Safety Net Program infrastructure.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "basic level of behavioral health services" means providing:

(1) Prompt evaluations of individuals of their need for behavioral health services;

(2) Stabilization of individuals in need of such services by means of medication and other appropriate treatments or services;

(3) Referral of individuals for further appropriate services;

(4) Long-term services, if necessary; and

(5) Development of services to be provided on a free or reduced fee basis within treatment centers or facilities.

(c) The department shall evaluate the program on an annual basis.

(d) The department shall initiate the provision of services through the program as soon as is feasible but not later than October 1, 2007.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.